RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The number of cases of drug trafficking detected and the quaintly of drugs seized during the years 1990 and 1991 are as given below:

Description of Drug	*1990*		*1991*	
	No. of cases	*Qty seized (in Kg.)*	*No of cases*	*Qty. seized (in Kg.)*
Opium	506	2114	526	1997
Morphine	27	6	20	5
Heroin	764	2193	1156	621
Ganja	1782	39090	3129	48210
Hashish	753	6388	326	4397
Cocaine	2	1	-	-
Methaqualone	60	2141	78	4415

(b) The infromation is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Quantity of seized durgs disposed by destruction during the years 1990 and 1991 is as given below:-

Descrption of drug	*Quantiy disposed (In Kgs)* *1990*	*1991*
Opium	43	101
Heroin	1708	1578
Ganja	4780	4046
Hashih	1810	2386
Methaqualone	724	1615

Indian Debt to Erstwhile Soviet Union

1858. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the accumulated Indian debt to the erstwhile Soviet Union;

(b) whether the Government propose

to apportion this debt among the successor States;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is proposed to abrogate the Indo-Soviet protocol signed in November, 1978;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether any decision has been taken on Russian Rupee account being maintained in Indian banks; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) As on 31-1-1992 the total outstanding debt on Government account to the erstwhile Soviet Union was Rubles 970.58 million equivalent to approximately Rs.3065.22 crores converted at the rate of exchange of Rouble I equal to Rs. 31.7874.

(b) and (c). It is for the Government of India to apportion this debt amongst the successor States. The division of the assets and liabilities of the former USSR is a matter to be settled by the successor States themselves.

(d) and (e). Two rounds of negotiations were held with the former USSR on the revision of the Indo-Soviet Protocol signed in November, 1978. The negotiations have been inconclusive.

(f) and (g). The Government of India and the Government of the Russian Federation signed a Protocol on 22-2-1992 on trade turnover and payments in 1992. The Protocol provides for Russian Rupees Accounts being maintained in Indian banks.

[Translation]

Vacant Posts of Accountant Member in Income-Tax appellate Tribunal

1659 SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of Accountant Member in Income-Tax Appellate Tribunal lying vacant at present;

(b) since when these posts are laying vacant and the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of such members who belong to reserved categories; and

(d) if no member belongs to any reserved category, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the government to fill up these posts from Scheduled Castes/Tribes?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. VIJAYA BHASKARA REDDY): (a) Ten posts of Accounts Members are lying vacant at present, seven of which belong to reserved categories (5 SCs and 2 STs).

(b) These vacanies pertain to the year 1990, 1991 and 1992. The Selection Board constituted in 1990 could not fond suitable candidates for filling up all the reserved posts. The vacancies have been readvertised and a new Selection Board has been constituted for selecting suitable candidates belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The selection process is in progress. Action is also underway for filling up the posts which belong to open category.

(c) and (d). There are 6 Account Members belonging to reserved categories, three belonging to the Scheduled Castes and three to the Scheduled Tribes.